

for their own good name with the public, we earnestly hope that those few Hospitals, which are now in opposition will reconsider their position. To unregistered Nurses we would say: If you desire to be distinguished from those women who now usurp the name of Nurses, and from those who now bring disgrace upon the Nursing profession; if you do not wish to fall behind in the ranks of the calling—Register yourselves without delay. The Royal British Nurses' Association offers Registration on the Certificates, and the Hospital training, which you have already obtained. If you wait until the English Legislature takes up the question, the action of the Cape Parliament teaches that far more stringent regulations may be made.

THE NURSING DIRECTORY.

THE success of the Register of Trained Nurses, issued this year by the Royal British Nurses' Association, has shown the want which exists for a Directory of Nurses. We have, therefore, for some time past, been engaged in compiling particulars concerning the Hospital careers of Nurses on the same plan as that followed for medical men in the "Medical Directory." The proprietors of this journal have now obtained the copyright of "The Nursing Directory," and this week a printed slip from this volume will go out to many hundred Nurses, asking them to make such corrections in it, as they desire. The following is an imaginary example of this slip:—

ROBINSON, MARY, The Infirmary, Monkchester. Certif. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, 1883-87 (Probationer and Staff Nurse); Royal Infirmary, Bristol, 1887-88 (Sister); Monkchester Infirmary, 1888-91 (Matron); Registered Nurse, 1890; Member, and Member of General Council, Royal British Nurses' Association; Member of the Guild of St. Barnabas.

The "Directory" will also contain a great deal of statistical and general information about the chief Nurse-Training Schools in the United Kingdom, and will altogether, it is hoped, prove as useful and interesting to Nurses as the "Medical Directory" does to Doctors. Our great object, however, in issuing it, is to supplement the information given in the Register of Trained Nurses; and just as the "Medical Directory" had a great effect in forcing forward the compulsory Registration of medical men, so we hope that "The Nursing Directory" will have a similar result in the case of Nurses.

THE GUILD OF ST. CECILIA.

THE new guild, appropriately named after St. Cecilia, which has lately been founded by Canon Harford for the purpose of providing suitable music for the sick in our Hospitals and kindred institutions, will be a most beneficial movement, if managed on sensible and practical lines, as it bids fair to be. At a

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performance given by members of the guild—by kind permission of Mr. Marshall, at 18, Norfolk Street, Strand—Canon Harford explained that the music to be performed was selected with the three special purposes of relieving mental depression, alleviating pain, and producing sleep. And so, for each purpose, a different class of music, afterwards performed by the choir, is stated to have been exquisitely soft and refined, and eminently suited to invalids.

The bringing of really good and well-chosen music to Hospital Wards and the sick generally, cannot be regarded otherwise than as a great boon; there is such a marvellously soothing power in the music that passes straight to the heart, without taxing the brain, as all words, however kind, must always do, that many an invalid has felt the truth of Madame Neckar's beautiful lines:

"Sick am I of idle words, past all reconciling—
Words that weary and perplex, and pander and unrest,
Wake the sounds that cannot lie, for all their sweet
beguiling;
The language one need fathom not, but only hear and
feel."

But if the influence of true harmony is so potent for good in sickness, the influence of discord is no less so for evil; and if the guild would only extend its care for the musical comfort of the suffering so much farther as to use its influence to check, in some degree, the terrible amount of nerve-jarring and agonizing noises of all kinds, which, under the name of music, makes the life of London hideous, it would indeed become a perfect Godsend to those it desires to benefit. The suppression—or at least the modification—of street music would be a truly worthy object for the attention of the guild of St. Cecilia.

THE MINUTIÆ OF CHARITY.

CURIOUS indeed are the many devices to which people have recourse to raise money for charitable objects, which multiply year by year, and whose appeals for aid become also yearly more urgent and eloquent. One of the latest fads is the charitable quilt. A quilt of fifty to one hundred patchwork squares, which are divided amongst as many ladies as can be induced to assist. Each square is returned embroidered, or otherwise ornamented, together with the sum of one shilling, towards the funds of the charity. The quilt and the collected money are then presented to the Hospital or other Institution to be benefited. The idea is ingenious and interesting, if only as an illustration of the complicated arrangement by which alone some people can be induced to bestow their small offerings. Such a quilt was lately given by the ladies of Llandudno to Miss Swainson's Hospital at Kashmir, which is in connection with the Zenana Mission.

NOTE.—In reply to many inquirers we may state that the "Lectures on Obstetric Nursing" will be resumed in our issue of October 1.—ED.

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